



NEWS RELEASE

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE
CONTACT: Sandy Myers 540-332-9201 (office)
540-292-2500 (cell)
Sandy.Myers@VDOT.Virginia.gov

December 18, 2009
STA09-237
10:30 p.m.

Marshall Barnhill 540-332-9264 (office)
540-414-5670 (cell)
Marshall.Barnhill@VDOT.Virginia.gov

DANGEROUS LATE NIGHT ROAD CONDITIONS IN PORTIONS OF SHENANDOAH VALLEY

STAUNTON – (10:30 p.m.) A wintry mix has covered the Shenandoah Valley and is expected to continue through the night. Motorists are advised not to drive in the area unless it is necessary.

Primary roads in Augusta and Frederick counties and the interstate system received anti-icing treatments prior to today's weather. Crews will be out treating roads as long as conditions are present.

Here are the late night road conditions for Friday:

Interstate 66 – Minor conditions in Warren County.

Interstate 64 – Severe conditions in Alleghany, Rockbridge and Augusta counties.

Interstate 81 – Severe conditions in Augusta and Rockbridge counties. Moderate conditions in Rockingham and Shenandoah counties. Minor conditions in Frederick County.

Primary roads – Severe conditions in Alleghany, Bath and Rockbridge counties. Moderate conditions in Augusta, Highland, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Page and Warren counties. Minor conditions in Frederick and Clarke counties.

Secondary roads – Severe conditions in Alleghany, Bath and Rockbridge counties. Moderate conditions in Augusta, Highland, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Page and Warren counties. Minor conditions in Frederick and Clarke counties.

Motorists are reminded that ice and freezing rain conditions can still produce hazardous driving conditions, even when roads are treated. People should not drive unless absolutely necessary. People who are driving in winter road conditions should use extra caution particularly on bridges, overpasses, curves, hills and ramps.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. In areas where 511 is unavailable, dial 1-866-MY511VA (866-695-1182) (TTY/TDD users, call 711). Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at 511Virginia.org.

#

Road condition definitions:

Severe – drifting or partially blocked road. Snow tires or chains are necessary.

Moderate – snow or ice on major portions of the roadway. Snow tires or chains are advisable.

Minor – bare pavement except for isolated spots of snow, ice or slush. Driving with caution is recommended.

(END)